

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph [0040] (bridging pages 11 and 12) with the following amended paragraph:

[0040] Loaded into the memory 404 are several software components which are both standard in the art and particular to the present invention. These software components collectively cause the computer 400 system to function according to the methods of the present invention. The software components are typically stored on hard disks 406. Software component 414 represents the operating system, which is responsible for managing computer system 400 and its network interconnections. An example of a suitable operating system is Windows 98, or Windows NT. Software component 415 is for analyzing the image from the microwell plate reader 407. Software component 416 represents common languages and functions conveniently present on system 400 to assist programs implementing the methods which are specific to the present invention. Languages that can be used to program the analytical methods of the present invention include Java.RTM. in the preferred configuration, but may also include C, C.sup.++, Fortran, Visual Basic or other computer languages. Most preferably, the methods of the present invention are programmed in mathematical software packages which allows symbolic entry of equations and high-level specification of processing, including algorithms to be used, thereby freeing a user of the need to procedurally program individual equations or algorithms. Such packages include Matlab from Mathworks (Natick, Mass.), Mathematica from Wolfram Research (Champaign, Ill.), S-Plus from Mathsoft (Seattle Wash.), MathCAD from Mathsoft (Cambridge, Mass.) or "R" from the R Foundation (~~www.r-project.org~~). Accordingly, software component 418 represents

the methods of this invention as programmed in a procedural language or symbolic package.